Product specific economic zone for I.T. Industries in Mangalore

2954. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Special Economic Zone Scheme contained in the Foreign Trade Policy, 2004—09;

(b) whether Government of Karnataka has sought the approval of the Centre for establishing a 'Product Specific Economic Zone for I.T Industries' at Mangalore; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard with Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Chapter 7 of the Foreign Trade Policy (2004—09) contains the policy framework for setting up and operation of Special Economic Zones.

(b) and (c) A proposal received from Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board through the State Government for setting up of a Special Economic Zone for Information Technology sector at Mangalore is under consideration.

Problems of coffee growers.

2955. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coffee growers in the country and more particularly in Southern States are facing a lot of problems due to lower prices of coffee and resultant low investment in this sector;

(b) if so, whether the coffee growers have been demanding relief from the Central Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) Owing to the crisis arising out of low prices of coffee over the last few years, coffee growers